



Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Letter dated 12 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Under instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that Portugal would like to apply for membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Portugal expresses its readiness to contribute to the work of the Executive Committee and to fully cooperate with all its existing members in the challenge to alleviate the suffering of refugees.

Taking into consideration Portugal's long-standing history in dealing with the situation of refugees as well as its commitment to this matter, it is our hope that the Economic and Social Council will consider Portugal's request favourably and recommend to the General Assembly that it increase the membership of the Executive Committee.

(Signed) João Salgueiro
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

